

ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for discovering a network address. An exemplary method provides for communicating between a client device and a peripheral device over a network that includes a server device adapted to control the peripheral device. The network address of the peripheral device is determined to permit direct communication with the peripheral device, thereby bypassing the server device. The method includes reading a first data file of the server device. The first data file includes at least one of (a) the network address of the peripheral device, and (b) a network address of a second data file associated with and including the network address of the peripheral device. The method further includes comparing portions of at least one of the first and second data files with a predetermined data formatting pattern indicative of a network address.